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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 742

By Cole (Dyer)

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Jere T. Bradshaw of  
Dyer County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Mr. Jere T. Bradshaw; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee and longtime resident of Dyer County, Mr. Bradshaw was a highly respected member of the Dyersburg community, who was very dedicated to his Lord, his family, his community, and his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Dyersburg High School, Jere Bradshaw attended Tulane University and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; always interested in the pursuit of knowledge, Mr. Bradshaw was enrolled in the Success Program at Bethel College, pursuing a degree in business at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, throughout his remarkable life, he was highly sought after for advice, as he always found time to lend his considerable knowledge, wisdom and talents as a pillar of the community; it was said that his main hobby was "anything to do with people"; he loved people

and never shied away from helping those in need, not even from his successors at the county clerk's office; he always made himself available to be of assistance to anyone in distress, or just in need of a smile; and

WHEREAS, Jere Bradshaw served with acumen and alacrity as the Dyer County Clerk for three elected terms, from 1962-86, in which position he earned the respect of the public, his peers and staff alike for the superior quality of his work, his jovial nature, and his kind heart; and

WHEREAS, he was professionally active in the Tennessee Clerks Association, having served as a past president and a dedicated member; and

WHEREAS, Jere Bradshaw was a man of absolute integrity; he and Dr. John Moore developed and marketed computer software to assist county clerks with collecting and disbursing child-support payments; and

WHEREAS, it has been said that Mr. Bradshaw empathized with his fellow county clerks and knew the budget restraints that they faced on a daily basis; he sacrificed his own profit margin in order to make sure more of his colleagues could afford it and more children and families were able to get the much-needed funding available to them; and

WHEREAS, a vibrant member of the community, Mr. Bradshaw was a former president of the Dyersburg Rotary Club with more than 40 years of perfect attendance at club meetings; even triple bypass surgery could not keep this Rotary Paul Harris Fellow away from his fellow Rotarians, as he took his perfect attendance record very seriously; and

WHEREAS, he was active in the Travelers Protective Association and the Academy of Model Aeronautics and was a proponent for the establishment of a field for flying model airplanes at the Dyer County Community Development Park; and

WHEREAS, he was a former member of the Board of Governors of the University of Tennessee Alumni Association, having served on its Public Affairs committee; Mr. Bradshaw was also a Mason, as well as an active supporter of the Boy Scouts of America and a participant in a number of charitable fund drives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw was the past president and director of the Dyer County Fair Association. For several years he served as the Master of Ceremonies of the Fairest of the Fair contest and of the annual pet show; he was a fixture at the fair's Senior Citizens Day as the ever-popular bingo caller; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw was an active and devout member of the Dyersburg Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where he served the Lord faithfully for many years as an Elder of the church and as tour director for the Keenagers, the church's senior citizens group; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order. Jere enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Peggy, of 52 years, and was the proud parent of Dianne Fielder, of Knoxville, and Jere T. Bradshaw, Jr., of Nashville, and the doting grandfather of three wonderful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jere Bradshaw will also be deeply missed by his sister, Mary Ann Moncier of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and brother, Paul Cooper Bradshaw, of Chattanooga, and his many friends, neighbors, fellow Rotarians, and church members; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. Jere T. Bradshaw of Dyer County, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and for his many selfless contributions to his community and the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Bradshaw.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.